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No Objection to Declassification in Part 2010/07/08 : LOC-HAK-551-4-78-0

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 57//

State Dept. review completed

TO BREMER/BARBAN/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA BLACK PATCH WH52042

TOHAK 57

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE
CONTAINS CODEWORD

OCTOBER 24, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR:
FROM:
SUBJECT:

THE PRESIDENT
HENRY A. KISSINGER
INFORMATION ITEMS

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***** WHSR COMMENT *****

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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FRANCO REPORTED NEARING DEATH: A CONFIDANT OF PRINCE JUAN CARLOS HAS PROVIDED AMBASSADOR STABLER WITH INFORMATION WHICH INDICATES THAT FRANCO IS FAILING FAST AND THAT THE TRANSITION OF POWER TO JUAN CARLOS MAY ALREADY BE UNDERWAY. THURSDAY EVENING, THE SPANISH MEDIA CARRIED AN OFFICIAL BULLETIN ANNOUNCING THAT FRANCO'S CONDITION HAD SIGNIFICANTLY WORSENER. THE ANNOUNCEMENT SAID THIS MEDICAL BULLETIN HAD BEEN SIGNED BY EIGHT DOCTORS, WHICH SUGGESTS THAT FRANCO MAY HAVE REFUSED TO SIGN THE PAPERS AUTHORIZING THE SUCCESSION AND THAT THE COMPLICATED PROCESS OF DECLARING HIM INCAPACITATED TO RULE PERHAPS HAS BEGUN. EMBASSY MADRID CAUTIONS THAT THIS IS ONLY SPECULATION, AND THAT IT COULD ALSO SIMPLY BE PRELIMINARIES TO A SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT FRANCO HAS AUTHORIZED THE SUCCESSION.

PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT REAFFIRMS RTG POLICY ON WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. TROOPS: EMBASSY BANGKOK REPORTS THAT IN A CONVERSATION OCTOBER 22 WITH FORMER DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF

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